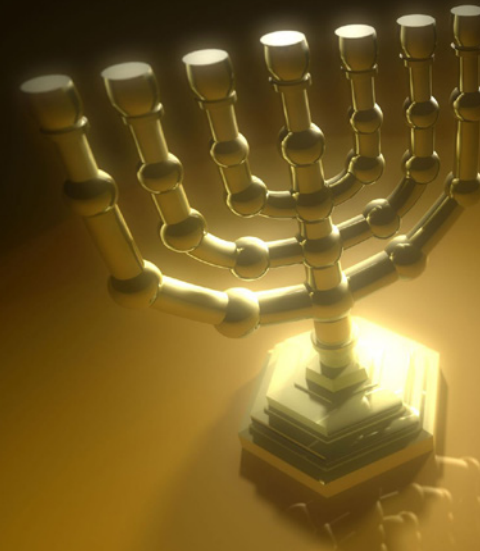


This week we will study about the Temple that Solomon built for the Ark of the Covenant.



# Torchlight

*"Of surpassing beauty and unrivaled splendor was the palatial building which Solomon and his associates erected for God and His worship. Garnished with precious stones, surrounded by spacious courts with magnificent approaches, and lined with carved cedar and burnished gold, the temple structure, with its brodered hangings and rich furnishings was a fit emblem of the living church of God on earth..." – Prophets & Kings p. 36*



# The House of the Lord



# SUNDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, thank You for my Bible and the ability to read. Please send Your Holy Spirit to me so I can understand what I am reading. Please help me to share the great things I'm learning with others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - PROVERBS 3:5-6

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Chronicles 2:1-16  
& 1 Kings 5:17-18



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Verse 3 tells us that Solomon asked king Hiram of Tyre to enter into an agreement with him, just as he had done with his father David. Solomon asked for two things. One was for a craftsman to be in charge of making all the furnishings for the temple and the second was for three types of wood – cedar, cypress and alnum. The most famous of these was the cedars of Lebanon, which were well known for their fine strong wood and wonderful scent. King Hiram sent a craftsman named Hiram and assured Solomon that he would supply him with all the timber he needed. Tyre was in Phoenicia, which was a country situated to the north of Israel. Verse 16 tells us they were going to float the timber on rafts down the coast from Tyre to Joppa, which was about 136 km, and then Solomon would be responsible to transport the timber inland to Jerusalem, which was about another 56 km. Solomon also gathered



a huge workforce together to prepare the materials. He needed woodcutters, stonecutters and men to carry all these materials to the building site. He also gathered a huge force of overseers to manage the enormous task. 1 Kings 5:11 tells us what Solomon paid Hiram for all that he provided. King Hiram didn't make war with his neighbour Israel. He had good political relations with both king David and Solomon. King Hiram in 2 Chronicles 2:12 acknowledged God as the creator of heaven and earth. Being friendly to our neighbours is very important. We need to let God shine through us. Perhaps our neighbours will then acknowledge God.

## FIND A WORD

In our reading today how many times did the word 'cut' appear?

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## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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\_\_\_\_\_





# MONDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Lord, thank You for loving me so much. Help me to be kind, and caring, and to think of others. Please let Your light shine through me today so I can share Your love with the people around me.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - PROVERBS 3:5-6

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 6:1-20



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

The 'House of the Lord' was also known as 'Solomon's Temple' or the 'First Temple'. Solomon began to build the temple in the fourth year of his reign as king. The Bible gives us the measurements of the temple in cubits. We discovered when reading about Moses building the sanctuary that a cubit was about 18 inches long. When you convert inches to metres the temple was 27 metres long, 9 metres wide and 13 metres high. The vestibule, or porch, was 9 metres wide and had a depth of 4.5 metres. So, by today's standards it wasn't a huge building but as we will find out later it was pretty spectacular. Verse 5 tells us that around the three sides of the temple were three levels of rooms, or chambers, that were used for storing the temple's treasures and for the use of the priests. Verse 7 tells us the main framework for the temple was stone, which was all prepared at the quarry so there was no noise made at the temple site. Everything was done with precision, so that when those stones arrived at the site they fitted together perfectly. The walls and ceilings were lined with cedar and the floor with cypress. Also, a room that was 20 cubits square, or 9 metres square in our measurement, was built at the back of the temple, which was to be the Most Holy Place. The temple was built on the spot where David had built the altar to the LORD when he had sinned through counting the people. It was known as Ornan's threshing floor. Check out *2 Chronicles 3:1*. Another name for it was Mt Moriah where Abraham had gone with his son Isaac. Have a look at *Genesis 22:2, 9, 16-18*.



## FIND A WORD

In today's Bible reading how many times did the word 'cedar' appear?

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## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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\_\_\_\_\_





# TUESDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You for keeping me safe while I slept and thank You for my warm cosy bed. Lord, I'm grateful for what You provide for me. Please be with the children who don't have a home or a family that loves them. Help them to know that You love them very much. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - PROVERBS 3:5-6

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 6:21-38



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our Bible tells us today that the inside of the temple was covered in gold. This included the walls, ceilings and floors! Carved into the walls of the temple were cherubim, palm trees and flowers. To go into the Most Holy Place were two very big cherubim made of olive wood and then covered with gold. They were 4.5 metres tall and with their wings out-stretched covered the width of the room, which was 9 metres wide. The cherubim represented the heavenly angels guarding the law of God as the Ark of the Covenant sat under the cherubim's out-stretched wings. The last part of our reading talks about the doors, as there were two sets. One set was made from olive wood and had carvings of cherubim, palm trees and flowers on it, which were then covered with gold. These doors were placed between the Holy and Most Holy Place. Verse 21 also tells us there were gold chains strung in front of the doors. *2 Chronicles 3:14* also tells us that behind the chains and doors was a beautiful embroidered curtain, or veil. The second sets of doors were made of cypress and they were folding doors for the entrance into the temple. Again, they were covered in beautiful carvings and gold. Verse 38 tells us it took seven years to build the temple. If you remember from our previous devotionals, regarding the building of the sanctuary, during the time of Moses only a veil separated the Holy from the Most Holy Place. Now we read not only a veil is in place but also solid doors and a chain. Do you think it's telling us something? Yes, stay out!



## FIND A WORD

In today's reading how many times does the word 'cherubim' appear?

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## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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# WEDNESDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, thank You for my Mum and Dad and what they do for me every day. Help me to be more grateful and thankful. Help me understand what I read in the Bible today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - PROVERBS 3:5-6

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 7:15-39  
& 2 Chronicles 4:1



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

The first part of our reading today talks about the bronze pillars. When we convert cubits to metres, each pillar was about 8.2 metres tall. The capital on top of that added about another 2 metres to the height. The capital was very detailed as it was in the shape of a lily with complex chainwork draped over it. Carved pomegranates were also placed on the capitals. One of the pillars was named Jachin and the other named Boaz. They would have been very grand and beautiful standing on either side of the two folding doors on the porch leading into the temple. The bronze laver where the priests washed before going into the temple, was made on a much bigger scale. It was so big that it was called 'The Sea'. It was 2.2 m high and 4.5 m wide. The basin was supported by twelve oxen. Just below the brim of the bowl were two rows of flower buds. Because of its height, the priests would not have been able to reach



it, so the water must have flowed somewhere underneath. Ten other bronze bowls, or lavers, were made to go into ten carts so they could be moved around. Five were placed along the left side of the temple and another five were along the right side of the temple. These carts were also beautifully decorated. 2 Chronicles 4:6 tell us these moveable lavers were to wash the offerings in. We find out about the bronze altar in 2 Chronicles 4:1. The bronze altar sat in the courtyard in front of the temple. It was very big measuring 9 metres square and 4.5 metres high. This was where all the animal sacrifices to God were made. Think about all the work that went into making all of this. It must have looked amazing!

## FIND A WORD

In today's Bible reading how many times did the word 'bronze' appear? \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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# THURSDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, thank You for the sunshine, the rain and the air I breathe. Thank You for creating all the lovely flowers, animals and scenery that I look at each day. I love You Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - PROVERBS 3:5-6

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 7:40-51  
& 1 Kings 8:1-13



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading confirms to us today that Hiram, the master craftsman from Phoenicia, attended to all the bronze work. Verses 46-47 mention that all the bronze articles were cast in clay moulds out on the Jordan plains. There was so much bronze used that the weight of it could not be determined. Have a look at 1 Chronicles 22:14. Our Bible reading also tells us that the golden altar of incense, the ten tables for the showbread, the ten golden candlesticks and the other articles that go with them, were made from pure gold. 2 Chronicles 4:7-8 tells us that 5 tables of showbread and 5 candle sticks were put one side of the Holy Place and 5 of each were on the other side. Our torchlight tells us that the temple, when finished, was a beautiful sight to behold. Remember our devotional last week told us that David and his people donated eight thousand talents of gold for the temple? Well, now you can see where all that gold went! With much ceremony, the Ark of the Covenant was retrieved from its special tent that David had made for it and was brought into the Most Holy Place and placed under the cherubim's wings. Verse 10 tells us that when this happened, God's presence filled the temple. It's interesting to note that in verse 4 and also in 2 Chronicles 5:5 that the original tabernacle that was at Gibeon was packed up and brought to the temple, probably to be placed in the storage rooms. There was no need for it now as Solomon's temple was to replace Moses portable tabernacle.



## FIND A WORD

In today's reading how many times was the name King 'Solomon' mentioned? \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

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# FRIDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Lord, thank You for keeping me safe this past week. Thank You for the many blessings You have given me. Help me to assist my family in preparing for the Sabbath. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - PROVERBS 3:5-6

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:  
2 Chronicles 6:12-42



## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today is a record of the prayer that Solomon prayed at the dedication of the temple.

A special bronze platform had been built and placed in front of the large altar for Solomon to stand on to address the large multitude, which had gathered for the dedication. The Bible tells us that all the people of Israel were there. Solomon knelt down on the platform and began to pray. Solomon first acknowledged God as the God of heaven and earth. In verses 15-17 Solomon acknowledged that God keeps his promises and refers to the promise that God made in 1 Chronicles 22:9 about Solomon being on the throne. In verse 18 Solomon acknowledged God's greatness and humbly recognised an earthly temple could not contain Him. From verse 19 onwards Solomon humbly asked God to accept his and the Israelites' prayers when they come to the temple to ask for forgiveness.

Solomon's prayer reminds us of how important prayer is and how it's good to praise and acknowledge God first before asking for forgiveness. Remember to praise and thank God first before asking Him to do things for you.



## FIND A WORD

In today's reading how many times does the word 'forgive' appear?

\_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





# SABBATH

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, thank You so much for Jesus and what He did on the cross for me. Please forgive me for my sins. Please bless me with Your presence today so I can shine for You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - PROVERBS 3:5-6

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Chronicles 7:1-22



## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our reading today tells us that when Solomon finished his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the offerings and sacrifices, and the glory of God filled the temple. When the Israelites saw this awesome sight they all immediately bowed down to the ground, and worshipped and praised God. God's presence in the temple showed that Solomon had followed the building plans which God had inspired David to write and God was happy to dwell there. After God accepted the offerings there was a great celebration and feast for many days.

Verse 12 tells us God appeared to Solomon a second time telling him that He had heard Solomon's prayer before the people and accepted it on behalf of Israel. God warned Solomon not to turn away from Him and His commandments. If he did He would dispossess the Israelites from their land and the temple would be no more. Verse 14 reminds us of what God wanted for his people and for us too. Solomon had a great responsibility before him. The sanctuary and the temple were both built to show the Israelites that atoning for sin was an unpleasant business. The blood of animals needed to be shed to point to the coming Messiah who would atone, or pay for, their sins. It was pointing to Jesus who was to come and pay the ultimate price by dying on the cross for our sins.



## SABBATH QUIZ

1. Where was king Hiram from? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How was king Hiram going to transport the wood from Tyre to Joppa? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What wood were the cherubim in the most holy place made from? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What were the two pillars on the temple porch made from?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many gold lampstands were made to go into the temple?  
\_\_\_\_\_